

DEC 20 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/090,358 Confirmation No.: 3855
Applicant: : David Tumey
Filed: : March 4, 2002
TC/A.U. : 3761
Examiner: : Melanie Jo Hand

Docket: : VAC.702.US
Customer No. : 30159

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

(Submitted with RCE)

Dear Examiner Hand:

This correspondence is being filed in conjunction with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The amendments herein are in response to a **Final Office Action** mailed **June 20, 2005**. Applicant files this RCE and Preliminary Amendment within six (6) months of the mailing date of the Final Office Action. Applicant previously filed an After Final Response within two (2) months of the Final Office Action and received an **Advisory Action** mailed **October 24, 2005**. Applicant therefore submits with this filing a Petition and Fee for a two (2) month Extension of the shortened statutory period of time for response. Applicant requests entry of the amendments indicated below and further examination of the application in light of the amendments and the appended remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.